portion of a surface of the fabric, wherein the resin compatible powdered coating has a loss on ignition of ranging from 0.1 to 1.6, and an air permeability, measured according to ASTM D 737, of no greater than 10 standard cubic feet per minute per square foot.

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 4-63 are pending in this application. Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application directed to the canceled subject matter.

Claims 1, 33, and 44 have been amended to include the limitations of canceled claim 3, which was indicated by the Examiner to contain allowable subject matter. *See* Office Action at page 4. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in the present specification at pages 3-7, and claim 3 as originally filed. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-8, 13-14, and 18-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent Publication No. 208,268 to Sugano in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 5-110218 to Sasaki. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot in light of the amendments made in this response, and therefore request that they be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 23, 2003

By: _____
Mark D. Sweet
Reg. No. 41,469

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

APPENDIX: Version with Markings To show Changes Made

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 § (c)(1)(ii)

1. (Amended) A fabric comprising at least one strand comprising a plurality of fibers and having a resin compatible powdered coating composition on at least a portion of a surface of the fabric, the resin compatible powdered coating composition comprising:

(a) a plurality of discrete particles formed from materials selected from non-heat expandable organic materials, inorganic polymeric materials, lamellar particles having a thermal conductivity of at least 1 Watt per meter K at a temperature of 300 K, non-heat expandable composite materials and mixtures of any of the foregoing, the particles having an average particle size sufficient to allow strand wet out;

(b) at least one lubricious material different from the plurality of discrete particles; and

(c) at least one film-forming material.

33. (Amended) A fabric comprising at least one strand comprising a plurality of fibers and having a resin compatible powdered coating composition on at least a portion of a surface of the fabric; the resin compatible powdered coating composition comprising:

(a) a plurality of particles comprising;

(i) at least one particle formed from at least one organic material; and

(ii) at least one particle formed from at least one inorganic material selected from boron nitride, graphite and metal dichalcogenides,

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

wherein the plurality of particles have an average particle size sufficient to allow strand wet out;

(b) at least one lubricious material different from the plurality of discrete particles; and

(c) at least one film-forming material.

44. (Amended) A fabric comprising at least one strand comprising a plurality of fibers and having a resin compatible powdered coating composition on at least a portion of a surface of the fabric, wherein the resin compatible powdered coating has a loss on ignition of ranging from 0.1 to 1.6, and an air permeability, measured according to ASTM D 737, of no greater than 10 standard cubic feet per minute per square foot.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com